

Message Text

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S E C R E T JERUSALEM 1805

EXDIS

SECTO 0084

FOR AMBASSADOR SCALI FROM SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A)

SUBJECT: PLO VOTE

1. IN MY CONVERSATION WITH SADAT, ASAD, AND HUSSEIN, I HAVE EXPLAINED WHY WE MUST OPPOSE RESOLUTION NOW BEFORE GA CALLING FOR PLO AS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE TO BE HEARD IN PLENARY. I WILL EXPLAIN IT ALSO TO FAISAL, HASSAN AND BOUMEDIENE. OUR UNDERSTANDING FROM FAHMI IS THAT WHILE DEBATE WILL BEGIN ON 14TH, THERE WILL BE MANY SPEECHES AND VOTE WILL NOT COME BEFORE I HAVE LEFT THE AREA. ARABS ARE INSISTENT, HOWEVER, THAT VOTE MUST COME BEFORE ARAB SUMMIT.

2. YOU ARE TO VOTE NO ON RESOLUTION WHEN IT COMES TO A VOTE.

3. I HAVE DECIDED THERE SHOULD NOT BE A MAJOR CAMPAIGN WITH OTHER STATES TO PRESS THEM TO DO THE SAME. WE, OF COURSE, WOULD WELCOME AS MUCH COMPANY AS POSSIBLE IN THE "NO" COLUMN, AND YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO RESPOND IN LOW KEY TO INQUIRIES BY TELLING OTHERS

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OUR INTENTION, GIVING AS THE PRINCIPAL REASON OUR

BELIEF THAT ANY OTHER VOTE BY THE U.S. AT THIS TIME WOULD PREJUDICE OUR CURRENT EFFORTS TO GET A SERIOUS NEGOTIATING PROCESS STARTED. YOU MIGHT ADD THAT THIS IN NO WAY ALTERS OUR FUNDAMENTAL BELIEF THAT ANY SETTLEMENT TO BE DURABLE MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF THE PALESTINIANS.

4. YOU SHOULD NOT SPEAK IN THE DEBATE. YOU SHOULD MAKE THE FOLLOWING EXPLANATION OF VOTE AFTER THE VOTE IS CAST: QUOTE. IT SHOULD BE CLEAR FROM MANY STATEMENTS BY MY GOVERNMENT OVER THE PAST MONTHS AND YEARS THAT OUR VOTE TODAY IN NO WAY REFLECTS A LACK OF UNDERSTANDING OR SYMPATHY FOR THE VERY REAL CONCERNS AND YEARNING FOR JUSTICE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. IT REFLECTS RATHER OUR CONSISTENT CONVICTION THAT THE JUSTICE THEY SEEK WILL COME ONLY AS A PART OF PEACE THAT IS JUST FOR ALL THE PARTIES AND THROUGH A PROCESS OF NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT OF THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT, AT THE HEART OF WHICH WE ALL RECOGNIZE LIES THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM. OUR VOTE ALSO REFLECTS A DEEP CONCERN THAT THE RESOLUTION BEFORE US COULD BE INTERPRETED BY SOME AS PREJUDGING THAT NEGOTIATING PROCESS AND MAKE A SETTLEMENT MORE DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE. IN THAT SENSE, THE RESOLUTION COULD HAVE THE ULTIMATE EFFECT OF WORKING AGAINST THE INTERESTS OF A PALESTINIAN SETTLEMENT. THE WORLD KNOWS HOW TIRELESSLY WE HAVE SOUGHT TO MOVE THE MIDDLE EAST FROM THE SOURCE OF WAR TO THE PATH OF PEACE. I CANNOT STRESS TOO STRONGLY OUR CONVICTION THAT THIS RESOLUTION WILL MAKE THAT TASK MORE DIFFICULT. FOR US TO HAVE VOTED OTHER THAN WE DID WOULD BE INCONSISTENT WITH AND HARMFUL TO OUR EFFORTS TO HELP PROMOTE A JUST AND LASTING PEACE THAT TAKES INTO ACCOUNT THE LEGITIMATE NEEDS OF ALL THE STATES AND PEOPLES IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

MR. CHAIRMAN, I WANT TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THE ONLY BASIS FOR A JUST NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT IS AND MUST REMAIN SC RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338. THE RESOLUTION PASSED TODAY CANNOT ALTER THE BASIS, AND OUR EFFORTS WILL GO FORWARD IN THAT ESTABLISHED AND WIDELY ACCEPTED

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FRAMEWORK. UNQUOTE.
KISSINGER

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